

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for determining taxes that is
2 configurable for local jurisdictions, comprising:
3 a tax knowledge base, embodied in a computer system, wherein the tax
4 knowledge base includes tax rate data pertaining to taxes in local jurisdictions;
5 an external tax service interface, embodied in a computer system,
6 configured to interface to a third party tax service provider to perform tax
7 computations for another local jurisdiction which is simultaneously applicable;
8 a tax rule base, embodied in a computer system, wherein the tax rule base
9 includes one or more rules for applying taxes in local jurisdictions; and
10 a tax determination manager, embodied in a computer system, that is
11 configured to determine a tax for a transaction using the tax knowledge base and
12 the tax rule base.

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1 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a tax rules
2 navigator that is used by the tax determination manager to navigate through rules
3 to return the result or reference to a result for a tax determination process.

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1 3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further
2 comprising a tax rules navigator that can be used by processes of a given tax
3 service component, including the tax determination manager and a tax
4 administration manager.

1 4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a tax
2 services request manager that is configured to access the tax determination
3 manager upon receiving a tax request from a registered subscriber.

1 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising an open
2 subscription mechanism, wherein the open subscription mechanism includes
3 security and access protocols used by the tax services request manager to control
4 access to the tax determination manager.

1 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a record
2 repository, wherein the record repository stores information relating to tax events
3 and tax status.

1 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a tax
2 repository manager, wherein the tax repository manager is configured to store and
3 retrieve tax events and tax status to and from the record repository.

1 8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a tax
2 configuration manager, wherein the tax configuration manager is configured to
3 update the tax knowledge base and the tax rule base.

1 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a
2 geographical model, wherein the geographical model is used to configure the
3 geographical boundaries of various jurisdictions associated with different tax
4 regimes.

1 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a trading
2 community model, wherein the trading community model represents

3 various parties, sites and locations involved in tax operations in a
4 standardized format.

1 11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a tax
2 administration manager, wherein the tax administration manager determines the
3 recoverability and the extent of recovery of a tax.

1 12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further
2 comprising a tax administration manager, wherein the tax administration manager
3 determines an amount to be settled with a tax authority for a given tax and a
4 calendar period specified by the tax authority.

1 13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further
2 comprising a tax administration manager, wherein the tax administration manager
3 interfaces with a payables system to enable the payment of a settlement amount
4 determined by another process of the tax administration manager.

1 14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further
2 comprising a tax administration manager, wherein the tax administration manager
3 provides a facility for reconciling the amounts in a record repository with that
4 existing in an accounting system.

1 15. (Currently amended) A method for determining taxes for local
2 jurisdictions, comprising
3 receiving a request to provide a tax for a transaction from a subscriber;
4 determining a set of local jurisdictions for the transaction;
5 accessing a tax rule base and a tax knowledge base;

6 calculating the tax for each jurisdiction in the set of local jurisdictions
7 using one or more rules from the tax rule base and tax rate data from the tax
8 knowledge base;
9 using a third party service external to the system to perform tax
10 computations for another local jurisdiction which is simultaneously applicable;
11 and
12 returning the tax for each jurisdiction to the subscriber.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 determining a taxable basis from the transaction;
3 determining a tax status basis from the tax rule base;
4 determining a tax rate from the tax knowledge base; and
5 calculating the tax based on the taxable basis, the tax status basis, and the
6 tax rate.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein receiving the request
2 from the subscriber includes verifying that the subscriber is authorized to make
3 the request.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising allowing a
2 user to update the tax rule base and the tax knowledge base, wherein updating the
3 tax rule base and the tax knowledge base provides current data for the method.

1 19. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a
3 method for determining taxes for local jurisdictions, comprising
4 receiving a request to provide a tax for a transaction from a subscriber;
5 determining a set of local jurisdictions for the transaction;

6 accessing a tax rule base and a tax knowledge base;
7 calculating the tax for each jurisdiction in the set of local jurisdictions
8 using one or more rules from the tax rule base and tax rate data from the tax
9 knowledge base;
10 using a third party service external to the system to perform tax
11 computations for another local jurisdiction which is simultaneously applicable;
12 and
13 returning the tax for each jurisdiction to the subscriber.

1 20. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, the
2 method further comprising:
3 determining a taxable basis from the transaction;
4 determining a tax status basis from the tax rule base;
5 determining a tax rate from the tax knowledge base; and
6 calculating the tax based on the taxable basis, the tax status basis, and the
7 tax rate.

1 21. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19,
2 wherein receiving the request from the subscriber includes verifying that the
3 subscriber is authorized to make the request.

1 22. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, the
2 method further comprising allowing a user to update the tax rule base and the tax
3 knowledge base, wherein updating the tax rule base and the tax knowledge base
4 provides current data for the method.

1 23. (Currently amended) A means for determining taxes that is
2 configurable for local jurisdictions, comprising:

3 a tax knowledge base means for providing tax rate data pertaining to taxes
4 in local jurisdictions;

5 a tax rule base means for providing one or more rules for applying taxes in
6 local jurisdictions;

7 an external tax service interface means for interfacing to a third party tax
8 service provider to perform tax computations for another local jurisdiction which
9 is simultaneously applicable; and

10 a tax determination manager means for determining a tax for a transaction
11 using the tax knowledge base means and the tax rule base means.

1 24. (Original) The means of claim 23, further comprising a tax services
2 request manager means for accessing the tax determination manager means upon
3 receiving a tax request from a registered subscriber.

1 25. (Original) The means of claim 23, further comprising an open
2 subscription means that includes security and access protocols used by the tax
3 services request manager means to control access to the tax determination
4 manager means.

1 26. (Original) The means of claim 23, further comprising a record
2 repository means for storing information relating to tax events and tax status.

1 27. (Currently amended) An apparatus that performs operations that
2 need to be performed to meet the requirements of a local jurisdiction, comprising:
3 an external tax service interface, embodied in a computer system,
4 configured to interface to a third party tax service provider to perform tax
5 computations for another local jurisdiction which is simultaneously applicable
6 a tax service comprising:

7 a number of service components within the tax service, including a tax
8 determination manager and a tax administration manager; and
9 a number of utility components within the tax service, including,
10 a geography model,
11 a knowledge base, and
12 a tax rule base which includes one or more rules for applying taxes in local
13 jurisdictions.

1 28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein service
2 components can be broken down into a small number of well-defined processes to
3 be executed by a tax service in a specific, pre-determined order to fulfill the
4 requirements imposed by a tax authority of a given local jurisdiction.

1 29. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the tax
2 rule base can accept rules for a given process of a service component to achieve a
3 requisite result specified by a tax authority of a local jurisdiction.

1 30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a tax rules
2 navigator that operates on the tax rule base and returns a result, or a reference to a
3 result, for a process of a service component for a given local jurisdiction.